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Arizona’s Family Court Cartel: Exposing Fraud, Abuse, and Civil Rights Violations

Arizona’s family courts are under siege from a network of corrupt professionals embedded within the system, and two of the most notorious figures are **Dr. Celice Korsten** and **Kristyn Alcott**. They are far from alone; **dozens of other attorneys, psychologists, therapeutic interventionists, consultants, and even judges** have manipulated custody cases, profited from families in crisis, and evaded accountability. This investigation exposes Korsten and Alcott, and in the weeks ahead, every member of what critics call the **Maricopa County Family Court Cartel** will be brought to light.

Legislative Hearings Reveal Families Devastated

The Joint Ad Hoc Committee on Family Court Orders has heard testimony from parents whose lives have been shattered:

- Bankrupted through prolonged litigation
- Silenced with gag orders
- Forced to relinquish custody of their children based on fabricated reports

- Children torn from protective parents and placed with abusers

Rep. Rachel Keshel, co-chair of the committee, called the testimony “heartbreaking — but not surprising.” Sen. Mark Finchem added: “The civil rights of children are being violated. We will not allow these voices to go unheard any longer.”

Independent coverage from AZ Free News, The Matthews Law Group, and Youth Ki Awaaz documents how protective parents are criminalized, custody is unjustly stripped, and the system financially drains families. Independent Journalists such Julie M. Anderson Holburn, Michael Volpe, Richard Luthmann, and Dr. Bandy Lee have been covering corruption in Arizona's Family Courts for years.

Dr. Celice Korsten: Licensed Psychologist With Alleged Fraud Ties

Dr. Celice Korsten earned her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from The American School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University. Licensed in Arizona through the Arizona Board of Psychologist Examiners, she has worked with the Department of Juvenile Corrections, Arizona State Hospital, and Napa State Hospital, treating serious mental illness, victims of crime, sexual offenders, and high-risk youth. She is trained in psychosexual evaluations, risk assessment, and forensically-informed treatment.

But behind this professional veneer lies a disturbing reality: Korsten is deeply embedded in a network of personal entanglements, criminal business practices, and court-sanctioned appointments that have devastated families and shielded abusers.

Korsten allegedly “divorced” businessman Brandon Howard Lederer, whose record includes decades of consumer fraud complaints. However, the separation appears strategic: Korsten and Lederer maintain shared interests in companies such as Express Flooring, Healthy Home Flooring, and Home Lift Now — all accused of deceptive practices, botched installations, fraud, theft, and contract manipulation.

In April 2024, the Arizona Registrar of Contractors revoked Healthy Home Flooring’s license, citing “a pattern of consumer deception, unlicensed work, and refusal to correct violations.” [AZ Family report]
Lederer’s criminal record includes State of Arizona vs. Brandon Howard Lederer (CR2018-006675), charging theft and fraudulent schemes. Although listed as “Disposed – Other

Disposed," it adds weight to the pattern of misconduct surrounding Korsten's inner circle.

Korsten and Lederer have amassed hundreds of thousands of dollars in judgments from defrauded consumers, former clients, and business partners, including:

- Signh Roofing [PDF]
- Bridge Enterprises [PDF]
- MidFirst Bank [PDF]
- M.S. International of California [PDF]
- Central Arizona Supply [PDF]
- Border Construction Specialties [PDF]
- Mohawk Factoring [PDF]

Questions remain about how Korsten managed an $870,000 down payment on a $1,650,000 home, and why certain signatures appear identical on key documents [PDF Affidavit]. Investigative reporting by Tucson.com and Tucson.com Local dating back to 2007 and 2015 documents a pattern of alleged fraud rather than isolated business errors.

Even more concerning: Korsten continues to be appointed in custody cases, giving her access to sensitive psychological records, therapy notes, and personal identifiers of parents and children. Families fear this information could be compromised, particularly given her ties to a spouse allegedly engaged in ongoing deceptive business practices.

Kristyn Alcott: Surrogate, Scandal, and Court-Appointed Deception

Kristyn Alcott, founder of **Family First Forensic Consultants** and listed on BBB, served as the surrogate for Korsten's child. She has been accused of fabricating credentials, manipulating court narratives, and committing domestic violence. Video evidence circulating online appears to show Alcott **assaulting her own son** [YourNews exposé].

Alcott continues to receive appointments in custody cases, often in tandem with Korsten and other members of the alleged **Maricopa County Family Court Cartel**, raising questions about oversight and ethical compliance [Youth Ki Awaaz].

The Family Court Cartel: A System of Exploitation

Investigations from Citizen Portal, YourNews, Bizapedia, and official court documents reveal systemic abuses including:

- **Fraudulent psychological and custody reports**
- **Ignored or erased evidence of abuse**
- **Retaliation against parents who challenge the system**
- **Financial exploitation via prolonged litigation**
- **Undisclosed ties among consultants, attorneys, and visitation centers**

Parents describe their children being forced into unsafe homes while families are bankrupted. This is not isolated, it represents a **cartel operating within Arizona's judiciary**.

Resources for Families and Advocates

Parents and advocates can report misconduct or seek support here:

- **Arizona Attorney General – File a Consumer Complaint**
- **Contact the Arizona Attorney General**
- **Governor Hobbs Contact Form**
- **Arizona Safe Parents – Facebook**

Read more about the corruption taking place in Arizona's Family Courts - especially in Maricopa County:

- Arizona Today Show Dr. Lyle Rapacki with Senator Mark Finchem
- Eviction Exposé -Stop the Steal Not Only Elections in Maricopa County
- Judge Zabor upholds order: gives temporary custody to abuser.
- The parental alienation racket in Maricopa County
- How did a former major leaguer get away with assaulting a minor
- Killer Family Courts? - by Richard Luthmann
- I've been fighting Family Court corruption in Arizona for over eight years. | by Laura A. Cavness | Medium

- Op-Ed | Arizona Is Prosecuting Protective Parents While Shielding Corrupt Officials - Davis Vanguard
- Keshel threatens to investigate judge over pending family-court cases | Arizona Capitol Times
- Corrupt Judge Teresa Sanders of Maricopa County Superior Court Violates Family Law, Destroys Fami... | MoveOn
- CitizenPortal.ai - Mother advocates for children amid Arizona family court failures and ethical misconduct
- CitizenPortal.ai - Arizona parents expose corruption and financial ruin in family court system
- Arizona parents call for the immediate removal of Maricopa County Judge Charlene Jackson amid allegations of Misconduct
- ► Judge Bradley Astrowsky of Phoenix, AZ; dimwit, scofflaw
- One Moms Battle - We are featuring Judge Paula Williams of... | Facebook
- Petition · Investigate/Remove Judge Charlene Jackson for Alleged Negligence and Misconduct - United States · Change.org
- Reviews for Raymond E. Branton in Mesa, AZ
- The Abysmal Track Record of Diana Vigil - Saving Grace Advocates
- Arizona's Family Court Cartel Members Exposed Part 1